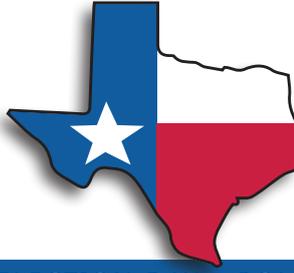




LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF TEXAS

2018 PRIMARY ELECTION EDITION

VOTERS GUIDE



NONPARTISAN

EARLY VOTING – FEBRUARY 20- MARCH 2, 2018 ELECTION DAY – POLLS OPEN 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M. MARCH 6, 2018

US Senator • Texas Governor • Lt Governor • Attorney General • Comptroller of Public Accounts • Land Commissioner • Agricultural Commissioner
Railroad Commissioner • Texas Supreme Court • Court of Criminal Appeals • Court of Appeals • State Board of Education

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ABOUT THIS VOTERS GUIDE

Empowering Voters.
Defending Democracy.

This *Voters Guide* is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund. For 99 years the League of Women Voters has been helping voters cast an informed vote when they go to the polls.

LWV VISION STATEMENT:

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

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VOTER IDENTIFICATION: WHAT TO TAKE TO THE POLLS

TEXAS REQUIRES MOST VOTERS TO SHOW PHOTO ID

The seven forms of approved photo ID's are: (must not be expired more than 4 years; for voters age 70 or older no limit on the expiration of the ID)

1. Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS);
2. Texas personal identification card issued by DPS;
3. Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS;
4. Texas handgun license issued by DPS;
5. United States military identification card containing the person's photograph;
6. United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph; (Note: Does not expire.)
7. United States passport.
- 8.

OPTIONS: Voters who do not have any of the approved photo IDs and who are on the official list of registered voters may sign a simple form called a "reasonable impediment declaration" and vote a regular ballot if they present a:

- Valid voter registration certificate (card)
- Certified birth certificate (original)
- Current utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check
- Paycheck
- Any other government document with the individual's name and address (original).

ID address does not have to match the voter registration address.

YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

2016 – 2017 Sample

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

VOTER REGISTRAR
800-687-8546 / 972-547-1990
2010 REDBUD BLVD, SUITE 102
MCKINNEY, TX 75069
www.collincountytx.gov

Secretary of State's Office
Elections Division
1-800-252-VOTE (8683)

VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE
(Certificado de Registro Electoral)
COLLIN COUNTY (condado de Collin)

VOID (VUID)	Gender (Sexo)	Valid from (Valido desde)	CONGRESS (Congreso)	STATE SEN (Sen Estado)	STATE REP (Rep. Estado)	COM	JP
Year of Birth (Año de Nacimiento)	Prec. No. (Pct. Num.)	thru (hasta)	CITY (Ciudad)	CITY DIST (Ciudad dist.)	ISD (escuela)	ISD DIST. (escuela dist.)	SBOE

Name and Permanent Residence Address (Nombre y direccion residencial permanente)
Voter, John Q.
1234 Street
City Name, Tx 75024

Name and Mailing Address (Nombre y direccion de correo)
John Q. Voter
1234 Street
City Name, Tx 75024

Voted in this Party Primary (Votó en esta primaria política)

X

VOTER MUST PERSONALLY SIGN HEREIN NAME IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT, IF ABLE. (El Votante debe firmar esta tarjeta personalmente al punto de recepción si puede)



The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office, or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

VOTING IN TEXAS PRIMARIES

The upcoming Texas primary is an extremely important election in Texas!

Voters in the Texas primaries and conventions choose who will run for office in the General Election. For many communities in Texas, their elected officials are chosen in the primary election because many districts heavily favor one party over the other.

The Republican and Democratic Parties choose their candidates in a primary election. The Libertarian and Green Parties choose their candidates in party conventions.

Texas has open primaries. That means that ALL Texas voters can participate in one of these events.

Voters who don't strongly identify with any political party can and should carefully consider the choices and participate in one of the primaries or conventions. But you can only participate in one. Once a voter has voted in one party, that voter cannot participate in another party's election or convention.

The League encourages all registered voters to participate in the Texas Primary Election and vote for the best candidates. Don't forget, voting in a primary does not commit you to vote for a particular candidate in the general election.

Be a Texas Voter!

U.S. SENATOR

6-year term. Must be at least 30 years old, a resident of the United States for at least nine years, and a resident of Texas. One of 100 members of the U.S. Senate which has specific powers to advise and consent to presidential appointments and treaties and to try impeachments. Powers the Senate shares with U.S. House of Representatives include the power to levy taxes, borrow money, regulate interstate commerce, and declare war. Current annual salary: \$174,000

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

• **Background:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

• **Disaster planning:** Should the federal budget plan in advance for funding disaster relief for catastrophic events, such as hurricanes and flooding? Why or why not?

• **Health care:** What specific reforms, if any, would you propose in health care policy to address the cost and access to health care? Explain.

• **Immigration:** What changes, if any, should Congress make in immigration policies? Why?

• **Other issues:** What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of Congress, and what is your position on these issues?



Sema Hernandez (D)

Background: I do not have previous political experience. Instead, I offer a genuinely human approach to fixing our political system. I am a working-class, first-generation American. I can relate to the struggle of working Americans because I've lived it.

Disaster planning: Absolutely. By including this in the budget, the federal government will be prepared to handle the needs of impacted people. I live in an area impacted by Hurricane Harvey and

have experienced the disaster firsthand. FEMA came to my area and offered disaster relief loans rather than grants. Putting people further into debt is not the answer. This system has to change.

Health care: I support single-payer healthcare for all. We are the wealthiest nation in the world that does not guarantee universal healthcare.

A single-payer system would put healthcare in the hands of patient and doctor, taking the profit-driven health insurance companies out of the picture. I support single-payer health-

care and H.R. 676 because healthcare is a human right!

Immigration: Undocumented immigrants in Texas are treated as second-class citizens even though they play a crucial role in our state's economic vitality. As your senator, I will work to pass legislation that gives undocumented immigrants a clear pathway to citizenship. I will also push for the simplification of the immigration process and ending immigration waitlists.

Other issues: I believe that higher education is a right and anyone should be able to attend public colleges and universities tuition-free. I support the decriminalization of marijuana, which could bring in major tax revenue for the state. I believe that our military has grown too bloodthirsty and we should cut the military budget, bring our troops home, and pursue a policy of peace.

Education: Career college (healthcare)

Website: <http://www.semafortexas.us>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/semafortexas/>

Twitter: twitter.com/SemaForTexas



Mary Miller (R)

Background: CPA, Master's in Accountancy and Taxation, over thirty years of business experience while supporting my sailor as he served the USN for 27 years, MOTHER, proud American, and prouder Texan. I work for you, not special interests.

Disaster planning: Absolutely. With the current system, there is little or no control over the process and with emergency appropriation bills, the risk runs high they will contain pork. The solution is an annual budget that adequately funds FEMA's Disaster Relief

Fund (DRF), ensuring the balance carries over as intended rather than budgeting the minimum and consistently failing.

Health care: Small businesses are drowning in the Obamacare obligation. And strangling small business isn't the way to get the economy thriving. History has shown us that a prosperous middle class is the key to economic benefits for everyone. The employee level is too low that demands coverage. Healthcare should be required for over 100

employees rather than 50.

Immigration: The overlapping of internal investigation offices at U.S. Customs and Border Patrol has exposed a need to centralize their efforts to curb an alarming number of terminations. I am a proponent of DACA. The problem should have been solved years ago and the children are grown, productive taxpayers who need final acceptance into the only home they've ever known.

Other issues: Russia's tampering with our election cannot go unanswered. Another branch of the military should be formed to counteract cyber threats. We've been hacked by China, Russia, and North Korea. The time for action is now.

Education: Round Rock High, University of Texas (BS), San Jose State University (MSA and MST)

Website: <http://maryusa.org>

Facebook: [http://Mary Miller](https://www.facebook.com/MaryMiller)

Twitter: twitter.com/marysenate2018

Edward Kimbrough (D), Beto O'Rourke (D),
Ted Cruz (R), Stefano de Stefano (R) Bruce Jacobson Jr (R), Geraldine Sam (R)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

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VOTE BY MAIL

Who can vote by mail in Texas? (no longer called absentee voting).

You may request a ballot to vote by mail if you

- Will be away from your county on Election Day and during early voting
- Are sick or disabled
- Are 65 years of age or older on Election Day
- Are confined to jail but otherwise eligible to vote

Generally, you do not need a photo ID to vote by mail. In some cases, first time

voters will be asked to supply a copy of an ID to vote by mail.

Request an Application to vote by mail from the early voting clerk in the county where you are registered, or download the form from www.VoteTexas.gov. The completed form must be received by mail by **February 23, 2018**. Note: postmarks don't count.

A ballot will be mailed to you, and you must return your completed ballot to your county elections department by 7 p.m. on Election Day, **March 6, 2018**. The ballot must be received, not just postmarked, by that date. If you are mailing your ballot from outside the United States, the early voting clerk must receive your ballot by the fifth day after Election Day. (You must mail it no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day.)

STATE OF TEXAS GOVERNOR

Four-year term. Must be at least 30 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a Texas resident for the five years immediately preceding the election. Among duties: executes all laws and conducts all business with other states and the federal government; fills appointive offices; fills vacancies in state or district elected offices by appointment; calls special sessions of the Legislature and sets their agenda; signs or vetoes bills passed by the Legislature. Current annual salary: \$150,000

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

• **Background:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

• **Election laws & voting rights:** What specific measures, if any, would you take to improve voter registration, access to voting, voter turnout and the redistricting process? Why?

• **Health Care:** What specific reforms, if any, would you propose in state health care policy to address the cost and access to health care? Explain.

• **Infrastructure:** Referring to water, energy, public education, transportation, what specific measures do you propose to meet the states growing infrastructure needs? Explain rationale.

• **Other Issues:** What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of the Texas Legislature, and what is your position on these issues?



Cedric Davis Sr. (D)

Background: I am a former Mayor, Police Chief, School Board Trustee, and EDC Board Director. I am accessible, influential, and energetic political leader. I have spearhead new school, roadways, and social projects. I have a B. Sc. in CJ, in Grad. Studies for MPA

Election laws & voting rights: Drop voter ID law, fairly redistrict voting maps, explore more technology for electronically registering and voting. I believe this measure ensures equity, not suppression.

Health Care: Seek the \$100 Billion of Medicaid Expansion refused by Gregg Abbott, drop lawsuit over women productive rights and restore proper CHIP funding for children and mothers. I would welcome Planned Parenthood as a mean of women affordable health care.

Infrastructure: Stop long-term tax abatements for the large corporation, I would not allow corporations to abate the educational tax. Allow non-violent offenders to learn a STEM, HVAC, Plumbing, and Engineering training so once released they may be contracted to become em-

ployed by the state to rebuild infrastructure for a 2 yr. period. Design new water reservoirs and seek new aquifers.

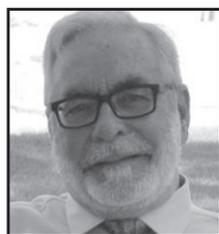
Other issues: Equity in women's pay and workplace harassment. Infrastructure Budgeting, and Criminal Justice Reform. Affordable higher education and work skilled labor training. Harsher ethics penalties for elected officials.

Education: Sam Houston State University (B.Sc. CRIJ). Mayor Davis is completing his graduate studies in Public Administration at Tarleton State University to obtain his (M.P.A.), he holds a Master Peace Officer license.

Website: <http://www.mayorcedricdavis4txgov.org>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/MayorCedricWDavisSr>

Twitter: twitter.com/Cedric4Texas



Joe Mumbach (D)

Background: 68 years in the school of hard knocks. Also I was a single parent with 2 daughters from 1979 to 1990. I have been self-employed for most of my adult life. I did work for the City of Pasadena for 10 years, mostly in Utilities and Engineering.

Election laws & voting rights: Voter ID laws should encourage people to vote; not discourage them. I could envision voter registration on election day with a valid driver's license and maybe a dye marker

on a thumb or finger. Something like that. Also the time for national census and redistricting is close by. I will end the gerrymandering and return to honest district lines.

Health Care: We should have established our own in-state marketplace options from the beginning. My preference would be for Medicare for all. But at the very least we should have made it easier for people to get coverage from Day 1. CHIP has been an effective program, even without the heartfelt assistance from the state. I would prefer to combine CHIP, Obamacare, Medicare into 1.

Infrastructure: We have 20 years of backlog on infrastructure projects to catch up on. From the Ike Dike to a third reservoir for flooding. Encourage renewable energy jobs with a sales tax-free home/business improvement. Improve schools so that our kids are better educated and qualified for more tech jobs, including free public pre-K and 2 years tuition-free training in community

Other issues: Our Texas Legislature and governor have once again decided to scrimp on education in order to reduce the state budget. We can't do that to our kids and our future. Our students and teachers need an advocate in the governor's office. We will teach parents (especially poorly educated ones) how to help teachers teach their own kids with online programs and also tv programs

Education: 3 years of college at the University of St. Thomas, Houston and some additional classes at Lamar University, Beaumont, and the University of Houston, Main Campus

Website: <http://www.joefortexas.us>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Joe-For-Texas-186138021960439/>

Twitter: twitter.com/realjoemumbach



Jeffrey Payne (D)

Background: I offer common sense, business sense and the commitment to our big and diverse state to create the best atmosphere for our citizens and our state's economy. I have years of experience as a mediator which should serve me well with our legislature.

Election laws & voting rights: I would encourage the legislature to abandon the Voter ID law which was designed to restrict voting not prevent fraud. Additionally, I would veto any

legislation that made it more difficult for Texans to vote.

Health Care: We need to improve Women's Health Care in Texas. The current state sponsored clinics are a sham and do not provide adequate care or information for Texas women. Healthcare should be a right not a privilege and as Governor I would work to encourage new initiatives to provide quality health care for all Texans. I would accept all Medicaid funds offered by the US Government.

Infrastructure: Texas needs an abundant supply of clean water. We need to improve our water resources and expand them. Our education system must be funded in accordance with the Texas Constitution. To do that we must insist that corporate citizens pay their fair share of property taxes. Renewable energy must be a priority.

Other issues: We need to encourage minority owned businesses and other small businesses with the same tax advantages given large corporations. Tuition at State schools must be affordable & we should institute a system that keeps students from going into massive debt. I would explore an Income Sharing Agreement (ISA) as an option. Livable Wage legislation to improve Texans lives.

Education: BA Louisiana Tech - History Minor - Mathematics

Website: <http://www.jeffrey4texas.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/jeffrey4texas>

Twitter: twitter.com/jeffrey4texas

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Additional candidate information and races are available at www.Vote411.org.



Lupe Valdez (D)

Background: I've spent my career working for the greater good. From 2005-2017, I served as Dallas County Sheriff, managing a \$140+ million budget, bringing sincere reform & saving taxpayer dollars. I've also been an officer in the Army and federal investigator.

Election laws & voting rights: Red & blue states across the country are reforming election laws. To modernize our elections, I support automatic voter registration, an independent redistricting commission, repealing discriminatory voter ID laws, shedding light on dark money,

and any practical steps that protect the integrity of our elections and make it clear we want the people's voice to be heard.

Health Care: I am committed to adopting the Medicaid expansion, adequately funding state mental health facilities, stopping the attacks on women's healthcare, and ending the medical deserts in urban and rural Texas, where maternal mortality rates are unacceptable. As governor, I'll wield the bully pulpit to push Congress to build on the ACA and protect our healthcare from sabotage.

Infrastructure: First, we need to stop focusing on harmful, job-killing bills and start paying attention to these issues that truly matter to Texans. We should reform the school finance system, promote public and private investment in renewable energies, and ensure our transportation funding meets the needs of today and future growth.

Other issues: Texans need to know they have a voice in Austin who will support our families, rein in special interests' influence, and bring back some sanity. The Legislature must respond to people's needs and focus on issues where we can improve their lives - this includes the economy, accessible healthcare, an equitable education system, and adequate transportation funding.

Education: Master's of Criminology, UT-Arlington, Bachelor's in Business Administration, Southern Nazarene University
 Website: <http://www.lupevaldez.com>
 Facebook: <http://facebook.com/LupeforTexas>
 Twitter: twitter.com/LupeValdez



Tom Wakely (D)

Background: As a life long community activist who has fought for social, economic and environmental justice for over 40 years I bring a wealth of practical experience to the issues facing Texans today: income inequality, universal healthcare and global warming.

Election laws & voting rights: Every Texan needs to be automatically registered to vote when they turn 18. In addition, I believe TX needs to join Oregon, Washington & Colorado & conduct all elections by mail. Vote by Mail would solve the access

to voting problem & substantial increase voter turnout. An independent bi-partisan commission needs to be in charge of redistricting.

Health Care: I support Medicare-For-All Texans.

Infrastructure: We need to scrap the state's franchise tax system and replace it with a

business income tax. The increased revenue from a business income tax would go a long way towards meeting our state's infrastructure needs.

Other issues: Income Inequality is the #1 issue in TX. Connecting the dots you will find many of the problems facing TX can be traced back to income inequality. Two ways we can begin to address the issues is first, we raise the state's minimum wage to \$15 an hour. The second thing we do is repeal our state's right-to-work laws. Rebuilt the labor movement, rebuilt the middle class

Education: Alamo Height High School, San Antonio Lorretto Height College, Denver Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago
 Website: <http://texansfortom.com>
 Facebook: <http://www.texansfortom.com>
 Twitter: twitter.com/TexansforTom



Andrew White (D)

Background: I've been a proven entrepreneur for twenty years and led hundreds of employees. My style of leadership involves tackling complex issues using data and building consensus and I am committed to standing up against the extremism in our state.

Election laws & voting rights: Texas has one of the lowest voter turnout rates in the nation, in part, because our state has made voting so difficult. We do not have a voter fraud issue - the data doesn't

support that accusation. The voter ID law needs to be changed, because voting should be easy. Our state should allow automatic registration whenever a citizen interacts with a government entity.

Health Care: Texas has the highest rate of uninsured Americans in the country. And yet, Gov Abbot refuses to cash a check for \$6 billion per year from the federal government to expand Medicaid. I will expand Medicaid so we can stop treating the uninsured in expensive emergency rooms. I will also increase funding for mental health, which will reduce the pressure on hospitals and jails.

Infrastructure: We need to reform the education system, and we need to pay teachers fairly. I will invest in public school districts, not voucher programs. I will build strong pre-K programs and vocational training for high school students. As our cities grow, so do our infrastructure needs. I will invest in smart plans to reduce traffic and I support the bullet train.

Other issues: My priorities are healthcare & education. We also need to increase funding for Planned Parenthood & close the \$5 billion property tax loophole that benefits commercial property owners. Expanding Medicaid & closing loopholes takes pressure off the counties & homeowners who pay more than their fair share of property taxes. Finally, the "show me your papers" law is dangerous.

Education: Andrew earned a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Religious Studies from the University of Virginia in 1994. He received his Masters in Business Administration degree from the University of Texas in 2003.
 Website: <http://andrewwhite.com> | Email: info@andrewwhite.com
 Facebook: <http://fb.com/andrewwhitetexas>
 Twitter: twitter.com/randrewwhite

Adrian Ocegueda (D), Grady Yarbrough (D), James Jolly Clark (D),
 Greg Abbott (R), Secede Kilgore (R), Barbara Krueger (R)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
 See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**



WHAT IS PROVISIONAL VOTING?

The Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 provides for provisional voting if a voter's name does not appear on the list of registered voters due to an administrative error. If your name is not on the rolls of registered voters in your precinct, but you believe you are registered, the election judge will attempt to determine if you are registered somewhere in your county.

If your registration cannot be found, you may cast a provisional vote by filling out an affidavit and a paper ballot. This ballot is kept separate from the regular ballots, and the case will be reviewed by the provisional voting ballot board. The ballot will be counted only if the voter is determined to be a registered voter in that precinct. Provisional voters will receive a notice in the mail by the tenth day after the local canvass advising them if their provisional ballots were counted and, if they were not counted, the reason why.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Four-year term. Must be at least 30 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a Texas resident for the five years immediately preceding the election. Among duties as part of both the Executive and Legislative branches: assumes powers of Governor when Governor is absent or unable to serve; acts as President of the Senate; by statute, is a member of several Legislative branch boards and committees. The salary is that of a state senator when serving as President of the Texas Senate and that of the Governor when serving as Governor.

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

• **Background:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

• **Election laws & voting rights:** What specific measures, if any, would you take to improve voter registration, access to voting, voter turnout and the redistricting process? Why?

• **Health Care:** What specific reforms, if any, would you propose in state health care policy to address the cost and access to health care? Explain.

• **Infrastructure:** Referring to water, energy, public education, transportation, what specific measures do you propose to meet the states growing infrastructure needs? Explain rationale.

• **Other Issues:** What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of the Texas Legislature, and what is your position on these issues?



Mike Collier (D)

Background: Worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers for 22 years, 10 as partner. Learned to diagnose problems and provide leadership to solve them, with integrity. Suzanne and I met in college, married 28 years, two wonderful sons, one fabulous daughter-in-law.

Election laws & voting rights: I will oppose any law that disenfranchises voters, such as discriminatory voter ID. I will support and champion any law that promotes enfranchisement and voting such as paid time off on Election Day. I intend to kill gerrymandering in Texas by converting to a Redistricting Commission model. And I believe strongly in civics and history education in public schools.

Health Care: Texas should expand Medicaid (the business community is with me) but we should also reform Medicaid so that it marries well with the requirements of medical service providers. We should seek to optimize ACA, not destroy it. Pre-existing conditions should be covered, there should be no lifetime coverage limits, and healthcare should be treated as basic human right.

Infrastructure: I am public education's staunchest ally. I am voucher's number one foe. We need more money in education in particular and infrastructure in general and the funds must come from closing corporate loopholes and reversing previous cuts to the margin tax which left Texas in a terrible shape financially. Taxes on the people who live and work here must not be raised.

Other issues: Jobs/economic vitality, without destroying Texas or our values. We can have a great business climate AND a great state. Women's health is a huge issue; vilifying Planned Parenthood for political gain has cost countless women their lives and this must be reversed. Public policy in Texas is devoid of compassion, and that must change. Corruption can, and must, be stopped.

Education: BBA MBA
Website: <http://CollierForTexas.com>
Facebook: <http://Facebook.com/MikeCollier>
Twitter: twitter.com/CollierForTexas



Scott Milder (R)

Background: I have more than 20 years of experience as a businessman and served four years on the Rockwall City Council. I know what policies will help move our economy forward, and I am dedicated to serving the people of Texas.

Election laws & voting rights: I will work to defend the Texas Voter ID law, ensuring our state's voters know their elections are not being undermined by fraud.

Health Care: Healthcare is a complex issue, and many Texas families are facing rising insurance premiums as a result of the disastrous federal Obamacare law. I support market-based solutions that will help drive down costs, including allowing the purchase of health insurance across state lines and ensuring all Texans are able to access Health Savings Accounts.

Infrastructure: I believe we have to take a hard look at our budgetary priorities and work to eliminate waste. By cutting unnecessary spending, we can free up much-needed funding

for schools and infrastructure investments. I also believe we must fix our transportation crisis. There is not enough infrastructure to adequately serve our state's growing population.

Other issues: I believe property tax relief, transportation, and economic growth will all be key issues in the coming session. I fully support property tax relief and will work to see that the state starts paying its share of education expenses instead of forcing local property owners to make up the difference. I will work to cut bureaucracy and get out of the way of the free market.

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from The University of North Texas and Master's Degree in Public Relations from The University of North Texas
Website: <http://scottmilder4txlg.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/scottmilder4TXLG/>
Twitter: twitter.com/smilder



Dan Patrick (R)

Background: Bio information for Lt. Governor Patrick, including experience and accomplishments, can be found at: <http://danpatrick.org/meet-dan/>.

Election laws & voting rights: I stand by my record. Please visit my campaign website, <http://danpatrick.org/> and my official website, <https://www.ltgov.state.tx.us/>.

Health Care: I stand by my record. Please visit my campaign website, <http://danpatrick.org/> and my official website, <https://www.ltgov.state.tx.us/>.

Infrastructure: I stand by my record. Please visit my campaign website, <http://danpatrick.org/> and my official website, <https://www.ltgov.state.tx.us/>.

Other issues: I stand by my record. Please visit my campaign website, <http://danpatrick.org/> and my official website, <https://www.ltgov.state.tx.us/>.

Education: Bio information for Lt. Governor Patrick can be found at: <http://danpatrick.org/meet-dan/>
Website: <http://danpatrick.org/>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/dan.patrick.texas/>
Twitter: twitter.com/DanPatrick

Michael Cooper (D)

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See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a Texas resident for at least 12 months. Among duties: lawyer for the state; defends the laws and Constitution of the state; represents the state in litigation; approves public bond issues; enforces health, safety and consumer regulations; collects court-ordered child support; administers Crime Victims' Compensation Fund. Current annual salary: \$150,000

Justin Nelson (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Ken Paxton (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline. See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a Texas resident for at least 12 months. Among duties: collects taxes and fees owed the state; reports the state's financial condition to the Legislature at the end of each fiscal year and provides estimates of revenue for the coming year; provides economic development assistance to local governments and businesses; audits the performance of Texas schools. Current annual salary: \$150,000

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- **Background:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?
- **Revenue:** What measures would you take to ensure the reliability of estimates of money available for state spending?

- **Immigration:** Will it be a priority of your office to update the 2006 study of the financial impact of unauthorized immigrants on the Texas economy? Why or why not?

- **Other Issues:** What other issues do you consider the most important, and how would you address them?



Joi Chevalier (D)

Background: 17 years as innovative senior product leader in startups & Fortune 50 with P&L, acquisitions, and billions in revenue; pioneering small business owner incubating 23+ food+tech companies; Democratic delegate, state platform and resolution committees.

Revenue: Accurate forecasting, regular audits, special reports on strategic opportunities as in healthcare, education; seek innovative federal or state programs for incremental revenue; independent

reviews; expand definitions of programs to include related contingent areas and dependent programs and departments for more impact accuracy; systematic review protocol to ensure data.

Immigration: Absolutely. The discussion on needs to have factual, actionable information that is clear for different types of immigration, in order to remove emotion, assumptions, and hyperbole. Only then can real legislation be written to affect change in the priority arenas to

keep what is positive, or to reconsider what does not work for Texas.

Other issues: Healthcare: the comptroller must provide a variety of reports and investigations on the real costs to Texas (and at the county and city/healthcare district level) on not implementing ACA Medicaid expansion. Texans DO pay, regardless, for uncompensated care; underfunded care, and due to a broken implementation that severely hampers a reasonable discussion on what is needed.

Education: BA English, Latin, UT Austin MA English, British Literature & Technology UT Oxford Program, Brasenose College, Oxford UK Honors Graduate, Auguste Escoffier School of Culinary Arts
 Website: <http://www.joifortexas.com>
 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JoiForTexas/>



Tim Mahoney (D)

Background: With a background in public policy and law, I understand there has to be a systemic change in how Texas engages citizens in our economic efforts. For example, what planning was done for hurricane Harvey? For options, we need effective forecasts.

Revenue: The Comptroller's estimates have been as much about politics as economics. Estimating becomes even more precarious

with the uncertainty of our extractive industries. The more the uncertainty, the poorer the predictions. We need to start building coherent local/regional economies. Our investment strategies, including the Rainy Day Fund, make little sense.

Immigration: The 2006 report should be updated; such information should be one of the Comptroller's status reports before each legislative session. Mr. Hegar said he would do an update four years ago, but has not done one since he became Comptroller. The 2006 study

found "Undocumented Immigrants" provided more to the economy than they cost the State, though there was less local info.

Other issues: Texas is poorly managed. The mantra of cutting taxes, suing the Feds, has been a diversion. In the wake of Harvey, we would have suffered more without the Feds. The Comptroller could provide better public data dispersed interactively to every region; then we will find new directions for a more engaged Texas.

Education: Dallas Community College 1975; B.A., UT-Austin, 1978 (Awards: 1978 Society of Business and Economic Writers, 1978 Hearst Award for articles in the Texas Observer); MPA, UT-Austin, LBJ School UT-Austin 1983; J.D., S. Tex Col Houston, 1990.
 Website: <http://Tim4Comptroller.com> | Email: CommunityTexas@gmail.com
 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Tim4Comptroller/>
 Twitter: twitter.com/TimMaho06047539

Glen Hegar (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline. See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses



STUDENT VOTERS

Students may use either their parents' address or their college address for voter registration, whichever they consider to be their permanent address. Students cannot be registered at both places. Students who will be away from their address on Election Day and during early voting may request ballots by mail. Student IDs are not adequate photo IDs for voting and will not be accepted at the polls.

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a Texas resident for at least 12 months. Among duties: management of state lands and mineral-right properties totaling 20.3 million acres and providing revenues for the Permanent School Fund; repository of state land documents; responsible for the prevention of and response to oil spills that occur on "submerged" lands out to 10.3 miles in the Gulf of Mexico. The Commissioner also serves as a chairman of seven state boards, including the School Land Board, the Veterans Land Board, and the Coastal Coordination Council. Current annual salary: \$137,500

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- **Background:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?
- **Coastal planning:** What specific short-term and long-term measures would you implement to restore and protect the coast, wetlands, and built environment to minimize damage from major storms?

- **Coastal planning:** How do you address the concerns of developers and homeowners who want to build in these coastal areas?
- **Other issues:** What other issues do you consider the most important, and how would you address them?



Tex Morgan (D)

Background: I hold 2 BS degrees & a MBA. I've served as a chief engineer, CEO, & transit trustee. I've a business & engineering background; no-nonsense attitude; Eagle Scout; no conflicts of interest. I'm beholden solely to the people of Texas, where I grew up.

Coastal planning: 1st-efficiently restore destroyed properties, building up & bright, or buying out (Harvey victims still homeless!) 2nd-abate destroying & reclaim wetlands, marshes, prairielands & floodplains.

Build Coastal Spine & curved sea walls to cut storm surge. Restore, add, & expand dunes, beaches, groynes, Attack dead zones with water mega-pumps. Engineer & oblige porous parcels.

Coastal planning: Adopt & enforce clear best-practice standards to guide building & rebuild-

ing. Update models & map 500/1000-year storm projections. Limit types of structures/development in protected areas. Publicize global warming effects. Build up, back & bright; require permeable, porous, & containment's. Hold inclusive Coastal Summit. Reverse harmful insurance practices. Unclog funds.

Other issues: 1-Conserve our sacred Alamo & holdings, don't squander a half-billion \$ on redoing its surroundings. 2-Responsible to our Veterans, our GLO'll better communicate & deploy state land, housing & home-improvement loan programs. 3-Permanent School Fund-it must reap more for better schools, to defray local taxes. 4-A Bipartisan Redistricting Board! 5-More transparency!

Address: 110 E. Houston St. 7th Floor San Antonio, TX 78205



Miguel Suazo (D)

Background: I am the most qualified and experienced person on the ballot with a proven record of success. I actually work on issues related to the GLO and have for over 15 years. I am a proven leader and can bring in groups Democrats need to turn TX blue in 2018

Coastal planning: Short term, we need to care for those devastated by Harvey. Simultaneously, we must identify the projects that will most protect the coast. Protect estuaries, guard against encroachment of

fresh and brackish water. Restoring oyster habitats, preventing brackish water invasion of fresh water habitats, combating invasive species, building berms and sand dunes.

Coastal planning: Balancing the needs of nature, the public, and businesses has been a central component of my career. Having a vibrant coast is essential for tourism and for the enjoyment of the public. However, development must take into account environmental impacts. Raising the education level of where, how, and what to build is essential.

Other issues: The most critical issue facing the next Land Commissioner is that of leadership. The Land Commissioner must elevate the profile of the key issues Texans face and educate the public and other elected officials about the importance of the issues dealt with by the GLO. This requires setting critical priorities and focusing relentlessly on those priorities each and every day.

Education: New Mexico Military Institute Georgetown University

The University of New Mexico School of Law

Website: <http://www.miguelsuazo.org>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/MiguelSuazoForTXLandCommissioner/?ref=bookmarks>

Twitter: twitter.com/MrMiguelSuazo



George P. Bush (R)

Background: I have run a conservative and efficient Land Office. I am saving taxpayer money while putting more money in the Public School Fund than ever before.

The GLO has been a government office that works for the people during my first term.

Coastal planning: The restoration of McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge in Jefferson County is one example of what we are trying to

do on the coast. Restoration to this area provides critical protection to Port Arthur and the oil and gas infrastructure of the state. The GLO, along with its partners, has identified approximately 60 similar, high priority projects.

Coastal planning: I have long advocated for the construction of a coastal barrier. This sys-

tem, often referred to as the "Ike Dyke," would protect vital assets already in place, as well as encourage future, responsible development in these coastal areas. I would recommend the expansion of the existing levee systems in Port Arthur and Freeport along with a new levee system in Orange County.

Other issues: Continuing Hurricane Harvey relief – The Texas coast was devastated by Harvey last fall and we need to continue to fight for those affected. Helping Veterans—Ensuring that veterans have access to services they need is a top priority for my administration. Saving the Alamo—My objective is to save the Alamo so that we can tell the heroic story of the battle better than ever.

Website: <http://www.georgefortexas.org/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/georgefortexas/>

Twitter: twitter.com/georgepbush



RACES AND CANDIDATES

This Voters Guide lists candidates for statewide and regional races in Texas.

Only candidates in the Democratic and Republican political parties select their candidates in the primary election. Candidates in other parties are selected by convention.

Questionnaires are sent to candidates. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification. Due to space restrictions, candidates are given strict character limits. Replies exceeding the character limit are indicated by slashes (///). Candidates are asked to avoid references to their opponents; those who do not comply are listed with

the notation, "Response does not meet criteria." Candidates appearing with no photo failed to submit one. Those who do not respond to our questionnaire are listed with the notation, "No response received by print deadline."

This Voters Guide is organized by office, with candidates listed alphabetically by party. Ballot order may vary from county to county. The names of unopposed candidates are also listed.



Davey Edwards (R)

Background: Professional Land Surveyor in Texas & Oklahoma. Texas licensed state land surveyor and US Federal land surveyor. Masters & Doctorate degree in land administration systems. Applicable experience working with the Texas General Land Office.

Coastal planning: Short-term would be to continue to provide beach replenishment and maintenance programs. Long-term

would be to research plans that are being implemented in other areas of the world that have already or had coastal erosion issues.

Coastal planning: This is the same issue as developing in Flood zone areas throughout

Texas. There is a certain risk the developer takes on when building in these areas that natural events cannot be predicted or changed.

Other issues: Bringing back experienced and knowledgeable staff that was eliminated in the early term of the current commissioner during the GLO "reboot" program. This will make the GLO more efficient and effective to all the stewardships of the agency.

Education: BS Biomedical Science at Texas A&M MS Geospatial Surveying Engineering at Texas A&M PhD Geoscience at University of Texas
 Website: <http://www.daveyfortexas.com>
 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DrDaveyEdwards/>
 Twitter: twitter.com/_D4TX



Jerry Patterson (R)

Background: Retired Marine Vietnam veteran. Texas Senator 1993-1999, author Texas concealed handgun law, sponsor Home Equity Lending property rights constitutional amendment, co author Texas Coastal Management Plan. Texas Land Commissioner 2003-2015.

Coastal planning: A federally funded coastal barrier system such as the "Ike Dike" should be undertaken to protect the

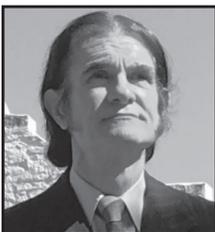
Galveston bay complex and the industries associated with it. Coastal development in eroding areas should be restricted in those areas of high rates of erosion, and habitat for coastal species should be enhanced and preserved in bays and estuaries.

Coastal planning: Building on coastal areas with high rates of erosion is folly. Its a

simple math problem. If you have a thirty year mortgage, and the beach is eroding at a rate of over 5 feet per year, it can easily be calculated when your structure will be on the public beach or on the state owned wet beach and have zero value.

Other issues: Restoring confidence and transparency in the management and finances at the Alamo which is now managed by the GLO. Restoring the Disaster Recovery division of the GLO, which is responsible for temporary emergency housing for Hurricane Harvey victims, to the professionalism and level of competence that existed during Hurricanes Ike and Dolly.

Education: BA, History Texas A&M '69
 Website: <http://www.votejpatterson.com>
 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Patterson4TX>
 Twitter: twitter.com/Patterson4TX



Rick Range (R)

Background: My 31-years as a first responder serves in reacting to natural disasters and veterans' affairs. Teaching and oil and gas experience allows a perspective to conduct leasing and grow the school fund. 20+ years of Alamo research supports restoration.

Coastal planning: Short-term: restoration from Harvey. GLO must assist storm victims in repairing their property. Long-term:

strengthen structural requirements, Wetlands are endangered species habitats. New retainers, barriers, and drainage routes must be balanced with preserving the natural environment.

Coastal planning: Building in flood-prone coastal areas is neither practical or prudent. It is unfair to expect all state taxpayers to pay for the inevitable results of ill-advised

future developments. Retainers and drainages can be constructed, building codes strengthened, and developments planned using such protective measures, but the bottom line is another Harvey will come.

Other issues: The other most urgent issue facing the GLO is the Alamo restoration in accordance with the Alamo Preservation Bill (HB 2968) passed and funded by the Texas Legislature in 2015. The structures need immediate attention. Then the original footprint of the 1836 battle can be recaptured, followed by a world-class museum to exhibit artifacts.

Education: B.M.E from West Texas State University in Canyon
 Website: <http://rickrange.us/> |
 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/savethealamotogether/>
 Twitter: twitter.com/savethealamotx

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a Texas resident for at least 12 months. Among duties: regulates fuel pumps and weights and measures devices; regulates pesticide use and application; certifies organically produced products; facilitates trade and market development of agricultural commodities. Current annual salary: \$137,500

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

• **Background:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

• **Disaster relief:** Do you support or oppose supplementing the privately funded State of Texas Agriculture Relief Fund with taxpayer money to finance disaster assistance needs of farmers, ranchers, producers, and agribusiness owners in restoring operations and rebuilding property following catastrophic droughts and hurricanes? Why?

• **Responsibilities:** Which responsibilities of the Texas Department of Agriculture are your highest priorities for the next 4 years, and how do you intend to accomplish them?

• **Other Issues:** What other issues do you consider the most important, and how would you address them?

Kim Olson (D)

Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information



The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office, or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

Additional candidate information and races are available at www.Vote411.org.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE *Continued*



Trey Blocker (R)

Background: I have worked my entire career representing agriculture and rural Texas – from serving as staff to rural members of the Legislature to advocating for agriculture groups to advance their interests with the Legislature.

Disaster relief: The beauty of the STAR fund is that it is 100% privately funded (preferred method of helping neighbors). However, we all depend on Texas Agriculture for our food and clothing, so it's essential that their operations be restored as soon as possible. If the STAR fund is inadequate to ensure food safety and security, the Legislature should consider supplementing it.

Responsibilities: I have a good working relationship with the Governor, Lt. Governor and most legislators and will work with them to preserve, protect, and promote Texas agriculture.

I want to restore honesty, integrity, and fiscal responsibility to the Texas Department of Agriculture. The current commissioner has raised taxes, grown the government bureaucracy, and had ethical problems.

Other Issues: As Commissioner, I will not consistently embarrass the agency and its employees or the state of Texas and will lead our employees with a greater sense of focus, vision and purpose. I will refocus TDA on its core mission ensure that they can provide the food, fuel, and clothing that our state, our nation, and the world need. It's time to put Agriculture first.

Education: BA – Hampden-Sydney College, Virginia J.D.
Univ. of Texas School of Law Attended Dallas Theological Seminary
Website: <http://www.TreyBlocker.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BlockerForTexas/>
Twitter: twitter.com/TreyBlocker



Sid Miller (R)

Background: I'm honored to be our state's 12th Commissioner of Agriculture. It's a job I have been preparing for all my life as a farmer, rancher, commercial nurseryman, nine-time World Champion rodeo cowboy, and as a vocational ag teacher and FFA advisor.

Disaster relief: The STAR FUND is funded entirely by the private sector to provide disaster assistance to farmers, ranchers, producers, and agribusiness owners who have been adversely impacted by disasters such as hurricanes, tornados, and wildfires. The STAR FUND should remain a voluntary and privately funded program to assist Texans in need without the use of any taxpayer funded dollars.

Responsibilities: Expand our TDA GO TEXAN marketing program marketing Texas agriculture products around the globe. 2) Continue our program of making Texas school

lunches great again. We've already made great progress by repealing all the burdensome TDA mandates and rules on our Texas schools. 3) Strengthen TDA's consumer protection division and ensure that Texans are not ripped off.

Other Issues: Since I took office, pesticide audits have increased by over 300 percent and consumers and their children are now better protected. I have also initiated a program to protect consumers against identity thief by detecting credit card skimmers at the gas pumps. I'll continue to find ways to work more efficiently with less tax dollars, while enhancing consumer protections.

Education: Cisco Junior College, Associate of Arts Degree Honors graduate of Tarleton State University, Bachelor of Science in Vocational Agriculture Education
Website: <http://millerfortexas.com>
Facebook: <http://facebook.com/MillerForTexas/>
Twitter: twitter.com/millerfortexas

Jim Hogan (R)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

RAILROAD COMMISSIONER

6-year term. Must be at least 25 years old, a Texas resident, and a registered voter. Regulates the energy industry, including preventing pollution, well plugging and site remediation, pipeline safety and damage prevention, surface mining of coal and uranium, gas utility rates, and alternative fuels.

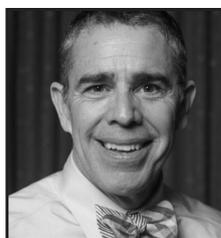
QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

• **Background:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

• **Stewardship:** How do you plan to balance oil, gas, and mining interests with protection of natural resources and the environment?

• **Responsibilities:** Which reform(s) suggested by the 2016 Sunset Review Commission are your highest priority, and how do you plan on implementing them?

• **Other Issues:** What other issues do you consider the most important, and how would you address them?



Roman McAllen (D)

Background: I am trained as an urban planner, architect and historic preservationist; at first glance regulating the oil and gas industry in TX doesn't seem like a good fit. The fact is that 88% of Texans live in cities. Oil & gas directly impacts urban life.

Stewardship: Right now I plan to balance the commission. The current commission is entirely beholden to the industry. It is an open secret that commissioners accept campaign contributions 24/7, 365 days a year, from the industry. I will balance the commission by listening to and believing scientists, surface rights owners & municipalities and supporting them.

Responsibilities: I would lobby to change the name of the commission to something that tells the public, & the commissioners themselves, what the commission is supposed to be doing. I would seek increased reporting requirements for wastewater injection wells. These wells are causing earthquakes and I believe polluting our water. This to me is immoral and

unjust. Texans cannot afford it.

Other issues: Assiduous enforcement of existing regulations on all matters is crucial. Added costs to accomplish this can and should be absorbed by the industry. The health, safety, and welfare of all Texans here now, and God willing in the future, depends on this commission to do the right thing and it cannot do so as long as it continues to pander to the industry.

Education: University of Houston Downtown, Bachelor of Business Administration; University of Texas Austin, Master of Architecture
Website: <http://www.mcallenfortexas.com/>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/McAllenForTexas/>
Twitter: twitter.com/RomanMcAllen

RAILROAD COMMISSIONER *Continued*



Christi Craddick (R)

Background: My first five years in office, my focus has been finding efficiencies in our processes and overhauling our information technology infrastructure. These accomplishments allow us to do our job better, saving time and money for taxpayers and industry.

Stewardship: I take seriously my duty to protect our natural resources while industry creates jobs. Strong, fair, consistent regulation ensures a safe environment and economic growth. During my time at the Railroad Commission, we have updated our rules to ensure the industry continues to do business in Texas, and at the same time, we have kept our communities and environment clean.

Responsibilities: Through the Sunset review process, the Railroad Commission has had considerable discussion about bettering its functions. We are more efficient today because of these efforts. One important reform, we are making improvements to our oil and gas

monitoring and enforcement program, and oversight of Texas' pipeline infrastructure.

Other issues: I'll continue to maximize our efficiency and effectiveness; defend our state's regulatory authority over energy development; increase transparency, bringing more agency data online; support streamlined permitting for infrastructure, ensuring safe transport of our energy resources; and, advocate for educational paths for a highly-trained, technically-skilled workforce.

Education: The University of Texas, Bachelor of Arts in Plan II – Liberal Arts Honors Program; The University of Texas Law School, Doctor of Jurisprudence
Website: <http://www.christicraddick.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/christicraddick/>
Twitter: twitter.com/christicraddick



Weston Martinez (R)

Background: Trusted Conservative Leader Texas Real Estate Commissioner 6+ years Real oil and gas experience owning my own companies. Weston is the only candidate in this race who endorsed Ted Cruz in the primary and Trump in the general when facing Clinton.

Stewardship: We're going to support oil and gas producers who responsibly produce energy in our state and we're going to make it easier for them to do business, but we will always reprimand bad actors.

Responsibilities: Renaming the agency from the Railroad commission to a proper name as its members indicated April 29th of 2016. visit www.westfortexas.com for more in depth information.

Other issues: Protect land owners and business owners and stop running commission like a dictatorship. For land owners we must always focus on making changes at the commission that better protect private property rights while still encouraging oil and gas development. How we deal with allocation wells.

Education: Bachelors Business Administration Texas Certified Mediator At&T Electrical Engineering Program
Website: <http://www.westfortexas.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/WestonMartinez/>
Twitter: twitter.com/WestonMartinez

Chris Spellmon (D)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**



REGISTERING TO VOTE

You must register to vote at least 30 days before the election date. The last day you can register to vote for the 2018 Primary Election is February 5.

Who can register?

To register to vote, you must be

- a citizen of the United States,
- a resident of the county, and
- at least 18 years old on Election Day.

You must not have been declared mentally incapacitated by a court of law.

If you have been convicted of a felony, you may register to vote only after you have completed the punishment phase of your conviction, including any terms of incarceration, parole, supervision, or period of probation ordered by the court.

Where do I register?

You can register

- in person at the voter registration office in your county, or
- fill out an application that can be mailed or returned in person to the voter registrar in your county of residence.

Application forms are available at many libraries, government offices and high schools. The application is available online at the Secretary of State's voter information website, www.VoteTexas.gov. The website also allows you to search to see if you are already registered.

After you apply, a voter registration certificate will be mailed to you within 30 days. This certificate includes your precinct for voting on Election Day as well as your congressional, state legislative, county, and local districts.



HELPFUL CONTACTS & WEBSITES

Secretary of State
sos.state.tx.us
VoteTexas.gov

League of Women Voters of Texas
lwvtexas.org

League of Women Voters (U.S.)
lwv.org

Republican Party
texasgop.org

Democratic Party
txdemocrats.org

Libertarian Party
lptexas.org

Green Party
txgreens.org

VOTE411.org

Voter Hotline! Election Protection.

866-OUR-VOTE English
888-VE-Y-VOTA Spanish
888-API-VOTE

**English, Mandarin, Cantonese,
Korean, Vietnamese, Bengali,
Urdu, Hindi, and Tagalog**

VOTING FOR JUDGES IN TEXAS



Although in some states judges are appointed, most judges in Texas are elected. Voting decisions in judicial races are among the most important that a Texas voter makes.

WHY ARE JUDICIAL ELECTIONS IMPORTANT?

Judges make decisions about fundamental issues that affect all of us — family life, education, health care, housing, employment, finances, discrimination, civil rights, public safety, and government actions. Those decisions can have long-lasting impact on individuals, groups, and the public as a whole. It is critical that our judges make fair decisions based upon open-minded and unbiased consideration of the facts and the law in each case. Judges must know the law and not be influenced by any external political and economic factors.

WHAT SHOULD VOTERS LOOK FOR WHEN ELECTING JUDGES?

According to the American Bar Association, principles to consider in selection of judges include:

- Judges should uphold the rule of law.
- Judges should be independent and impartial.
- Judges should possess the appropriate temperament and character.
- Judges should possess the appropriate capabilities and credentials.
- Judges and the judiciary should have the confidence of the public.
- The judicial system should be diverse and reflective of the society it serves.
- Judges should be constrained to perform their duties in a manner that justifies public faith and confidence in the court.

Unlike candidates for most political offices, judicial candidates cannot make promises about decisions they would make when certain issues or types of cases come up in their court. Questions posed to judges, therefore, focus on improvements they would make to their court, the need for impartiality and how they would increase access to justice.

HOW IS THE TEXAS COURT SYSTEM ORGANIZED?

The Texas court system is made up of a statewide network of trial courts and appellate courts. In trial courts, judges and/or juries evaluate the facts and the law and make a decision in a civil or criminal legal dispute. When decisions in most trial courts are appealed, they are sent to an appellate court where judges consider what happened at the trial court, evaluate legal arguments, and then decide if a mistake was made. See <http://www.courts.state.tx.us/pubs/court-overview.pdf> for a chart of the Texas court structure.

The state's two highest courts, the Texas Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals, have both administrative and appellate responsibilities. The Supreme Court is the final court of appeals within Texas for both civil and juvenile cases. The Court of Criminal Appeals hears criminal cases that are appealed from one of the 14 Courts of Appeals and death penalty cases that by law go straight to the Court of Criminal Appeals.

All members of each court are elected for six-year terms, with three elected every two years. Any vacancies are filled by gubernatorial appointment until the next general election.

TEXAS COURT OF APPEALS SERVES THE FOLLOWING TEXAS COUNTIES:

THE 1ST COURT OF APPEALS:

Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Harris, Waller & Washington

THE 2nd COURT OF APPEALS:

Archer, Clay, Cooke, Denton, Hood, Jack, Montague, Parker, Tarrant, Wichita, Wise & Young

THE 3rd COURT OF APPEALS:

Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Coke, Comal, Concho, Fayette, Hays, Irion, Lampasas, Lee, Llano, McCulloch, Milam, Mills, Runnels, San Saba, Schleicher, Sterling, Tom Green, Travis & Williamson

THE 4th COURT OF APPEALS:

Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Brooks, Dimmit, Duval, Edwards, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, La Salle, Mason, Maverick, McMullen, Medina, Menard, Real, Starr, Sutton, Uvalde, Val Verde, Webb, Wilson, Zapata & Zavala

THE 5th COURT OF APPEALS:

Collin, Dallas, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman & Rockwall

THE 6th COURT OF APPEALS:

Bowie, Camp, Cass, Delta, Fannin, Franklin, Gregg, Harrison, Hopkins, Hunt, Lamar, Marion, Morris, Panola, Red River, Rusk, Titus, Upshur & Wood

THE 7th COURT OF APPEALS:

Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Collingsworth, Cottle, Crosby, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Floyd, Foard, Garza, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hardeman, Hartley, Hemphill, Hockley, Hutchinson, Kent, King, Lamb, Lipscomb, Lubbock, Lynn, Moore, Motley, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, Terry, Wheeler, Wilbarger & Yoakum

THE 8th COURT OF APPEALS:

Andrews, Brewster, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Loving, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Reeves, Terrell, Upton, Ward & Winkler

THE 9th COURT OF APPEALS:

Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Montgomery, Newton, Orange, Polk, San Jacinto & Tyler

THE 10th COURT OF APPEALS:

Bosque, Brazos, Burleson, Coryell, Ellis, Falls, Freestone, Hamilton, Hill, Johnson, Leon, Limestone, Madison, McLennan, Navarro, Robertson, Somervell & Walker

THE 11th COURT OF APPEALS:

Baylor, Borden, Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Dawson, Eastland, Ector, Erath, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Haskell, Howard, Jones, Knox, Martin, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Palo Pinto, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor & Throckmorton

THE 12th COURT OF APPEALS:

Anderson, Angelina, Cherokee, Gregg, Henderson, Houston, Nacogdoches, Rains, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby, Smith, Trinity, Upshur, Van Zandt & Wood

THE 13th COURT OF APPEALS:

Aransas, Bee, Calhoun, Cameron, De Witt, Goliad, Gonzales, Hidalgo, Jackson, Kenedy, Kleberg, Lavaca, Live Oak, Matagorda, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria, Wharton & Willacy

THE 14th COURT OF APPEALS:

Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Harris, Waller & Washington

JUSTICE, TEXAS SUPREME COURT

6-year term. Must be age 35-74 years, a U.S. Citizen, a Texas resident, licensed to practice law in Texas, a registered voter, and have at least 10 years experience as a lawyer or judge. Hears final appeals of decisions on civil cases and attorney discipline, issuing writs of mandamus/habeas corpus, and conducting proceedings for removal of judges.

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- **Background:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?
- **Public Protection:** The Texas Supreme Court oversees and controls rules and standards for the legal profession. What changes, if any, are needed to provide better protection to the public?

- **Judicial selection:** What changes in the judicial selection process, if any, would improve impartiality and public accountability of judges? Explain.
- **Responsibilities:** Which responsibility of a Texas Supreme Court justice is your highest priority and how do you intend to accomplish it?

SUPREME COURT PLACE 2

Steven Kirkland (D) _____
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Jimmy Blacklock (R) _____
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

SUPREME COURT PLACE 4

R.K. Sandill (D) _____
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

John Devine (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — **NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.**
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

SUPREME COURT PLACE 6

Kathy Cheng (D),
Jeff Brown (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — **NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.**
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUDGE, TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

6-year term. Must be age 35-74 years, a U.S. Citizen, a Texas resident, licensed to practice law in Texas, a registered voter, and have at least 10 years experience as a lawyer or judge. Reviews all death penalty cases and applications for habeas corpus in felony cases, hears final appeals on criminal cases, and administers publicly funded judicial and attorney education.

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- **Background:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

- **Access to Justice:** What recent developments (e.g., client choice of counsel, technology) provide opportunities to improve the state's indigent defense system in criminal cases appealed from lower court decisions?

- **Responsibilities:** Which responsibility of a Court of Criminal Appeals judge is your highest priority and how do you intend to accomplish it?

PRESIDING JUDGES

Maria T. (Terri) Jackson (D) _____
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

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An interactive version of this Voters Guide is available online at VOTE411.org. Enter your address and zip code and view the races and candidates that appear on your ballot. You will be able to compare the candidates' responses to the questions side-by-side and create a printout of a ballot that you can take to the polls.

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JUDGE, TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS *Continued*

PRESIDING JUDGES



Sharon Keller (R)

Background: Judge on this Court 23 years; 17 years as Presiding Judge. Written hundreds of opinions including in death penalty cases. As P.J. I work with legislature; oversee court operations. Chair, Indigent Defense Commission; former chair, CSG Justice Center

Access to Justice: In Texas, the idea of client choice in criminal cases originated with the Texas Indigent Defense Commission, which I have led since 2002. We provided funding and technical assistance to create the

first such program in the U.S. Because the concept proved successful, we have discussed adding appellate appointments to the program.

Responsibilities: My primary duty is to correctly interpret the law as set out by the legislature. I look first at the actual wording of the provision in question, resorting to legislative history only if the wording is ambiguous or absurd. I defer to the legislature whenever a statute can be construed to be constitutional.

Education: S.M.U. School of Law, J.D. 1978 Rice University, B.A. 1975
Website: <http://www.judgesharonkeller.com>

David Bridges (R)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

CRIMINAL APPEALS PLACE 7

Ramona Franklin (D),
Barbara Parker Hervey (R)

**UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

CRIMINAL APPEALS PLACE 8



Jay Brandon (R)

Background: I have worked at this court, had many cases in this court, and spent my career in criminal appeals and writs, the exact work of this court. I'm a frequent speaker at criminal law seminars, with experience in all appeals including death penalty cases.

Access to Justice: I serve on the Legal Services to the Poor state bar committee, so I'm familiar with developments in this area. Public defender appellate offices are good because they are appellate specialists. What we need to do is improve the quality of representation on appeal, which is why I speak at so many seminars.

Responsibilities: First, to write clear opinions instructing judges and lawyers in criminal cases how to try criminal cases fairly to all, with results we can trust (and I am a professional writer.) Second, to review writs filed by defendants, because this is the court of last resort for criminal cases. I have reviewed many writs in my career, and have helped wrongfully convicted people.

Education: University of Texas, B.A., English; Johns Hopkins University, Master's, creative writing; University of Houston, J.D.
Website: <http://jaybrandonforjudge.org>
Facebook: <http://jaybrandonforjudge>
Twitter: twitter.com/Jaybrandon



Dib Waldrip (R)

Background: I am the only candidate board certified in criminal law by either the State Bar or the National Board of Trial Advocacy, is a police officer, an elected District Attorney as well being a judge and having previously worked for the courts of appeals.

Access to Justice: With help of others, I pioneered the first "Client Choice" for indigent defendants in our nation. Initially a pilot, the program proved its viability and is in use today in Comal County. Client choice is a free market economy solution that motivates counsel to improve to get the next appointment. By creating competition, the entire justice system is inherently enhanced.

Responsibilities: Preserving, protecting & defending the constitution & laws of the U.S. & our state require courage & intellectual honesty to avoid being an apologist for miscues of the state. I intend to be a solution finder & consensus builder to enhance intellectual integrity of opinions so that law enforcement, prosecutors & trial judges are not enabled to repeat errors with impunity.

Education: Texas A&M-BS Ag Alamo Area Law Enforcement Acad. St. Mary's School of Law-JD F.B.I. Nat. Law Enforcement Acad./Univ. of Virginia Northwestern & George Mason Schools of Law Judicial Education Programs Nat. Judicial College Judicial Leadership Seminar
Website: <http://www.JudgeDibWaldrip.com>
Facebook: <http://facebook.com/JudgeDibWaldrip>
Twitter: twitter.com/DibWaldrip

Michelle Slaughter (R)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**



WHERE AND WHEN TO VOTE

Early Voting: All registered voters may vote early by personal appearance at any early voting location in their county. Check with your local newspaper or the county clerk or election administrator for early voting times and locations. Early voting days for the March 6, 2018, Primary Election are February 20-March 2.

Election Day Voting: On Election Day you must vote in your precinct of residence (unless your county is participating in countywide vote centers). Your precinct is listed on your registration card, or you may find out where to vote from your county election administrator.

County elections addresses phone numbers, fax numbers, and email addresses are available at www.VoteTexas.gov or at www.VOTE411.org. Voting places are also listed in most newspapers. If you report to the incorrect polling place, you will be redirected to the correct site or offered a provisional ballot. You can vote by provisional ballot, but if it is determined that you are not registered in the precinct where you vote, your ballot will not be counted by Texas law. More information on provisional voting appears on the Texas Secretary of State website www.VoteTexas.gov.

CHIEF JUSTICE COURT OF APPEALS

6-year term. Must be age 35-74 years, a U.S. Citizen, a Texas resident, licensed to practice law in Texas, a registered voter, and have at least 10 years experience as a lawyer or judge. Hears appeals on civil and criminal cases from lower courts in its district.

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Background: What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Access to Justice: What recent developments, such as improved DNA testing, provide opportunities to improve the state's indigent defense system in civil and criminal cases appealed from district and county courts?

Responsibilities: Which responsibility of a Court of Appeals justice and is your highest priority and how do you intend to accomplish it?

2ND COURT OF APPEALS

Bonnie Sudderth (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

5TH COURT OF APPEALS

Douglas S. Lang (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Robert Burns (D)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

10TH COURT OF APPEALS

Tom Gray (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

11TH COURT OF APPEALS

John Bailey (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

13TH COURT OF APPEALS



Dori Contreras (D)

Background: I have been a Justice on the 13th Court of Appeals for fifteen years. I have worked closely with the current Chief Justice and have first-hand knowledge of the duties of the position and the manner in which to lead the Court. I am known and trusted by the staff and judges on the Court. My experience as an Accountant will enable me to easily assume the financial duties.

Access to Justice: It is now mandated that parental termination appeals be given priority and be handled on an expedited basis. Additionally, in the 2018-2019 budget, the legislature funded the overhaul of Children's Protective Services in order to help children in foster care receive the protection they deserve. Both of these developments will improve the system for indigent litigants.

Responsibilities: The Chief Justice is primarily responsible for management of the Court and administration of its budget. While the Court is currently run very efficiently, I intend to familiarize myself with the methods and procedures utilized by other courts of appeals around the State to determine whether there is room for improvement. One example is a Pro Bono appellate project.

Education: Pharr San Juan Alamo High School, 1976; BBA in Accounting, University of Texas at Austin, 1980; Doctor of Jurisprudence, The University of Houston Law Center, 1990
Website: <http://www.justicedori.com>
Facebook: <http://Justice Dori Contreras>
Twitter: twitter.com/justicedori

Ray Thomas (D)

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

Ernie Aliseda (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, COURT OF APPEALS

6-year term. Must be age 35-74 years, a U.S. Citizen, a Texas resident, licensed to practice law in Texas, a registered voter, and have at least 10 years experience as a lawyer or judge. Hears appeals on civil and criminal cases from lower courts in its district.

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Background: What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Access to Justice: What recent developments, such as improved DNA testing, provide opportunities to improve the state's indigent defense system in civil and criminal cases appealed from district and county courts?

Responsibilities: Which responsibility of a Court of Appeals justice and is your highest priority and how do you intend to accomplish it?

JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 2

Gordon Goodman (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Jane Bland (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 6

Sarah Beth Landau (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Harvey Brown (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 7

Julie Countiss (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information



Terry Yates (R)

Background: I am a former prosecutor and current City Judge and have practiced law for nearly 28 years. I have tried in excess of 200 jury trials to verdict and have handled numerous appeals. I am Board Certified by the TBSL and the NBTA.

Access to Justice: The improved DNA testing has provided exculpatory evidence which has been used to exonerate innocent people. The creation of Public Defender's Offices has vastly

improved the indigent defense system. With nearly 28 years experience in the area of criminal justice I have the experience necessary to make sure that the guilty are punished and the innocent are set free.

Responsibilities: My highest priority will be to see that a just result is rendered in each case according to the law. I will follow the law and not make it. Second to reaching the correct result, I believe that justice delayed is justice denied. I will make every effort to see that the cases are handled carefully but expeditiously.

Education: 1983 Graduate of the University of Texas @Austin with Special Honors; 1989 Graduate of the University of Houston Law Center; 1992 Graduate of Career Prosecutor's School
Website: <http://terryatesforjudge.com>
Facebook: <http://judgeterryates>

Katy Boatman (R)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 8

Richard Hightower (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Michael Massengale (R)

**UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
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JUSTICE COURT OF APPEALS *Continued*

JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 9

Peter Kelly (D)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

Jennifer Caughey (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 2ND COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 4

Wade Birdwell (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 2ND COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 5

Delonia A. Watson (D)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
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Dabney Bassel (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 2ND COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 6

Mark Pittman (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
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JUSTICE, 3RD COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 2

Edward Smith (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Cynthia Olson Bourland (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 3RD COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 3

Chari Kelly (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Scott Field (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
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JUSTICE, 3RD COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 5

Thomas J. Baker (D),
David Puryear (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 3RD COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 6

Gisela D. Triana (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information



Donna Davidson (R)

Background: EXPERIENCED: 25 years as attorney and ethics advisor
TRUSTED: Legal counsel for Governors Perry and Bush/ General
Counsel for the Republican Party and elected officials TEXAN: Born in
Texas; UT Law graduate CONSERVATIVE: will uphold the rule of law

Access to Justice: The Texas Supreme Court and the
Texas Court of Criminal Appeals set the policies relating to the state's
indigent defense system and the recent developments relating to
electronic filing is an improvement as it will lessen costs for pro se litigants.

Responsibilities: My highest priority as a justice is to closely follow the text of the law - not
legislate from the bench. The Texas Constitution creates three separate branches of
government: the legislature passes law; the executive carries out the law; and the court
interprets and applies the law. I will follow this constitutional structure and abide by the rule of
law, with God's help.

Education: University of Texas School of Law, Doctor of Jurisprudence University
of Texas, Bachelor of Journalism Mission High School, Texas
Website: <http://donna4justice.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DonnaGarciaDavidson/>
Twitter: twitter.com/Donna4Justice

JUSTICE COURT OF APPEALS *Continued*

JUSTICE, 3RD COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 6



Jennifer S. Freel (R)

Background: I'm a board certified appellate lawyer with jury trial, civil, and criminal law experience. For nine years, I worked as a federal prosecutor. As a mother of three children, I want to ensure Texas remains as strong as it is now for future generations.

Access to Justice: Our system of justice is the best in the world, but it is not perfect. Improved DNA testing is undoubtedly an important tool within that system. With regard to access to justice, the courts belong

to the people. Judges should never forget that.

Responsibilities: My highest priority will be to reach the correct result in the cases before me. I will approach each dispute without fear or favor and work tirelessly to provide a well-reasoned and timely decision. I will not legislate from the bench.

Education: The University of Missouri - Bachelor of Journalism, Magna Cum Laude;
The George Washington University - Juris Doctor, High Honors, Order of the Coif
Website: <http://www.jenniferfreel.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JenniferSheffieldFreel/>
Twitter: twitter.com/j_freel

JUSTICE, 4TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 2

Beth Watkins (D)

Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Marialyn Barnard (R)

Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 4TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 3

Patricia O'Connell Alvarez (D)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

Jason Pulliam (R)

Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 4TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 4

Luz Elena Chapa (D)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

Patrick Ballantyne (R)

Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 4TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 5

Liza Rodriguez (D),
Rebecca Simmons (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 4TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 7

Rebecca Martinez (D)

Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Shane Stolarczyk (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 5TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 2

Robbie Partida-Kipness (D)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

David Evans (R)

Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE COURT OF APPEALS *Continued*

JUSTICE, 5TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 5

Erin Nowell (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Craig Stoddart (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 5TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 9

Bill Pedersen (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Jason Boatright (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

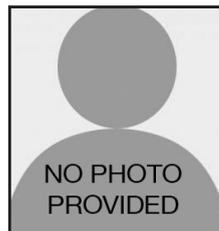
JUSTICE, 5TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 10

Amanda Reichek (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Molly Francis (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 5TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 11

Cory Carlyle (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information



John Browning (R)

Background: I have over 28 years of trial and appellate experience - the most by far of any candidate in this race. Appellate judges write, and I am one of the most prolific and accomplished legal writers in Texas (author of 4 books and many articles).

Access to Justice: I am in favor of utilizing technology to help provide indigent defendants with equal access to justice. That's why I helped organize and speak at a free CLE seminar for Legal Aid

attorneys from all over the state recently, entitled "With Technology and Justice for All." It gave these attorneys guidance on using technology to assist indigent Texans in civil/criminal cases.

Responsibilities: A Court of Appeals justice must not only be experienced in appellate law and an accomplished legal writer, he or she must be impartial and ethical. I have not only received Texas' highest awards for my writing, but also for my legal ethics. In 2016, I received the Bar's lifetime achievement award for contributions to legal ethics. I also teach judges about legal ethics.

Education: B.A. (History and Comparative Literature), Rutgers University, graduating Phi Beta Kappa with general and departmental honors; J.D., University of Texas School of Law
Website: <http://www.johnbrowningforjustice.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/johnbrowningforjustice>



Tom Nowak (R)

Background: Hundreds of trials, thousands of cases handled, and being in court daily means my experience is unmatched. I am trusted by counties to handle indigent defense. I can provide veteran leadership (USAF JAG). I am a strict Constitution originalist.

Access to Justice: Tech advances have improved access to appeals. By making advances with official transcripts and records, it should be cheaper and faster for indigents to appeal their cases.

New scientific tests may make the outcome more certain, but could result in higher costs to appeal. We must make sure that we are efficient with how we spend our resources to accomplish the task.

Responsibilities: Because the 5th CoA is the biggest and busiest, the Court must focus on moving the cases it hears more efficiently. The time it takes for a case to make it through the system can be made faster. I hope to leverage my skills, especially in criminal law (the bulk of the cases), to speed up the length of time it takes for cases to be decided. Practical skills, like mine help.

Education: Texas A&M - History and Political Science Baylor Law School USAF - JAG School
Website: <http://www.VotingForTom.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/votingfortom/>
Twitter: twitter.com/votingfortom



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Additional candidate information and races are available at www.Vote411.org.

JUSTICE COURT OF APPEALS *Continued*

JUSTICE, 5TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 11



Dan Wyde (R)

Background: Former Judge, 8 years Presided over 500 jury trials and 500 bench trials. 99% Court of Appeals affirmation rate. Former Asst. Dist. Atty, 6 years Private Practice, Civil Litigation, Family, Probate Law Bd. Certified Crim. Trial Law Specialist

Access to Justice: Each County is responsible for providing Access to Justice. This is accomplished by each County funding private attorneys or public defenders to represent indigent defendants. The funds should be allocated from each County's budget for Public Justice. If a prosecuting agency loses a case, the funds provided for the defendant should be deducted from that agency's budget.

Responsibilities: Guarantying Due Process (Notice of proceedings and the Opportunity to be heard) to all parties and their legal counsel in each appeal filed before the 5th District

Court of Appeals at Dallas. Many trial court judges, under the guise of "discretion", refuse to issue rulings and orders for fear of upsetting campaign contributors or drawing an opponent in the next election.

Education: UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LAW CENTER, Juris Doctor, May 1990 First Place, school-wide mock trial competition. Best Oralist, school-wide mock trial competition UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN BBA in Finance with concentration in Tax Accounting
Website: <http://www.danwyde4justice.com>
Facebook: <http://DanWyde4Justice/>
Twitter: twitter.com/DanWyde4Justice

JUSTICE, 5TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 12

Ken Molberg (D)

Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information



Perry Cockerell (R)

Background: I have practiced civil trial and appellate law for over 36 years and am Board Certified in Civil Trial Law. I serve on State Bar of Texas Appellate Council and am the only candidate running who has been elected to serve on the Council.

Access to Justice: Most courts of appeals in this state have adopted a Pro Bono panel that refers indigent appeals to volunteer attorneys to handle on a pro bono basis. I am proud to have accepted and handled 4 pro bono referrals over the past several years that were civil and quasi criminal in nature.

Responsibilities: To interpret laws and apply them to cases before the court and decide correctly. The court does not make law, advocate changes in the law, advise the Legislature how to make law, perform duties of the Legislature, sit in judgment of the policies of the Legislature, or impose a policy that it may prefer instead of that set out by the Legislature.

Education: B.S. Texas Wesleyan University 1978 J.D. Texas Tech School of Law
Website: <http://www.voteperrycockerell.com/>
Facebook: <http://PerryCockerellForTexas5thCt.ofAppealsPlace12>



Jim Pikel (R)

Background: 31 years experience in complex commercial and Constitutional/civil rights litigation and appeals, all over the country. I have been counsel in cases involving every type of law the Court of Appeals decides (criminal, family, and civil).

Access to Justice: DNA and other technology improvements have made defending cases much more cost-effective as well as ensuring much more accurate evidence is available in court. Indigent defense continues to be a source of tension in our system, and lawyers need to take seriously their oath to improve the system, for everyone, even when they are not being paid by their client.

Responsibilities: To ensure that our courts do not become politically weaponized, and instead stick to adjudicating legal issues, supporting the Constitution, and enforcing the rule of law. Accomplishing these things must be the task and goal of the appellate courts if our system is to function as designed and intended. Political partisanship has no place in judicial decision-making.

Education: BA Mathematics, BA Economics, Eastern Wash. Univ. (both with honors); Graduate Econometrics, Univ. of Arizona; JD Law, Gonzaga School of Law (with honors)
Website: <http://www.jimpikel.org>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pikel4judge/?ref=bookmarks>
Twitter: twitter.com/pikel4judge

JUSTICE, 5TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 13

Leslie Lester Osborne (D)

Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Elizabeth Lang Miers (R)

Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 6TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 2

Scott Stevens (R)

UNOPPOSED
CANDIDATE

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE COURT OF APPEALS *Continued*

JUSTICE, 7TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 2

Judy Parker (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 7TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 3

Pat Pirtle (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 8TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 2

Yvonne Rodriguez (D)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 8TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 3

Gina M. Palafox (D)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 9TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 3

Leanne Johnson (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 9TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 4

Hollis Horton (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 12TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 3

Greg Neeley (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 13TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 2

Nora Longoria (D) _____
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Greg Perkes (R) _____
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 13TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 4

Rudy Delgado (D) _____
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Jaime Tijerina (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE COURT OF APPEALS *Continued*

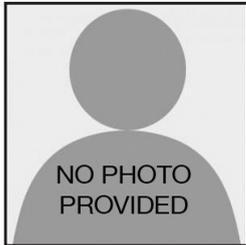
JUSTICE, 13TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 5

Gina Benavides (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Clarissa Silva (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 3



Joseph R. Willie II (D)

Background: I have extensive appellate experience in my 27 years of law practice. I have over 25 published appellate opinions, both civil and criminal. I would like to bring an African-American perspective to the 14th Court of Appeals.

Access to Justice: DNA testing has resulted in innocent individual being freed from incarceration. However, competent and zealous legal representation must be provided to an indigent individual, both at the trial and appellate

levels. The compensation of our indigent defense counsel and public defenders must be on par with the assistant district attorneys so ensure that result.

Responsibilities: The responsibility of a Court of Appeals justice is to make sure that the laws are applied fairly and justly and are to be implemented without bias and/or prejudice. Additionally, to make sure that opinions are rendered based upon the facts and the law and not on a litigant's station in life.

Education: B.S. in Biology, Tenn. State Univ., 1978 D.D.S, Univ. of Texas Dental Branch, Houston, 1982 J.D., South Texas College of Law, 1991



Jerry Zimmerer (D)

Background: BA-Houston Baptist University, JD-South Texas College of Law Houston, LLM. International Law-UofH, LLM. Health Law-UofH. Ethics Internship-MD Anderson, Advisory Board-UofH Health Law & Policy Institute, Led law firm with broad litigation experience.

Access to Justice: DNA as scientific evidence is required to satisfy legal standards for such evidence. DNA has become accepted as both objective and probative. As with any evidence, the weight given should be determined by the finders of fact. As costs come down, we expect to see more DNA

evidence. It is likely DNA evidence will benefit more people, including our indigent population.

Responsibilities: Unlike the US and Texas Supreme Courts which only hear cases of importance, Texas Courts of Appeal play the important role of oversight and review of challenged cases. Under Texas law, any case may be reviewed as a matter of right from the trial courts. I expect to use my best education, training, and experience to fairly review cases brought before me as a Justice.

Website: <http://www.JerryForJustice.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JerryForJustice/>
Twitter: twitter.com/JerryForJustice

Brett Busby (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 4

Charles Spain (D),
Marc Brown (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 5

Frances Bourliot (D)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

Martha Hill Jamison (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

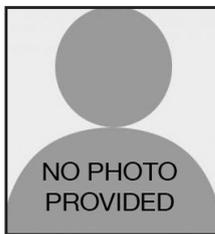
JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 6

Meagan Hassan (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Bill Boyce (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 8



Michele Barber Chimene (D)

Background: I have 25 years experience as an appellate attorney and am running for an appellate court. I have respect for the parties and the law, and will follow the law unless the Constitution dictates otherwise. Good listener and believes all persons r equal.

Access to Justice: Improved DNA testing could be a boon, but it has to be done, done correctly, and available promptly. Better training of law enforcement to use and make available the tools they

have, such as body cameras. Better quality attorneys defending the indigent - the establishment of the Public Defenders Office was a plus. More appellate attorneys actually

handling pro bono.

Responsibilities: Before you can actually apply the law, you have to know what it is. In my 25 years, I have learned much law, but excellence in legal research is my highest priority and you accomplish that with hard work. I will also check the record to make sure both sides are correctly representing it.

Education: A.B geology, Dartmouth College J.D. law, Uof H law Center
Website: <http://chimenerforjustice.com>
Facebook: <http://chimeneforjustice.com>



Margaret "Meg" Poissant (D)

Background: Please see poissantforjustice.com for more detail. Experienced in state, federal, and county courts in broad range of civil and criminal matters. Licensed in Texas and New York, AV Preeminent Martindale-Hubbell, Texas Trial Lawyers Association.

Access to Justice: It is important that indigent defendants choose their own counsel when possible. Having participated in Houston Volunteer Lawyers, I recognize the

importance of trust between the client and attorney. The pilot program "Client Choice" is an important development for indigent Texans. Nonprofit organizations, such as the Texas Fair Defense Project, provide those opportunities.

Responsibilities: To be fair to all litigants and follow the law. By maintaining high standards of integrity and ethics, using my 32 years of legal experience to rule on the issues presented. I will work diligently to apply the law to the facts of each particular appeal without prejudice to the parties. A fair and impartial ruling is necessary to maintain legal integrity.

Education: LeMoyne College - BS University of Houston Law Center - JD
Website: <http://www.poissantforjustice.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Margaret-Meg-Poissant-for-Fourteenth-Court-of-Appeals-Place-8-Campaign-726635674201435/>

John Donovan (R)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

4-year term. Must be 26 years old or older, a U.S. Citizen, a Texas resident, and a registered voter. Oversees curriculum standards, instructional materials, graduation requirements, new charter school applications, and the Texas Permanent School Fund; appoints board members to military reservation/special school districts.

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- **Background:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?
- **Testing:** Does the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) adequately and efficiently diagnose individual student learning needs? Why or why not?

- **Funding:** What measures, if any, would you take to improve (a) investment policies for the Permanent School Fund and (b) equitable distributions for public schools? Please explain.
- **Other Issues:** What other issues do you consider the most important, and how would you address them?

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 2



Michelle Arévalo Dávila (D)

Background: As a Texas Public School Educator, I know that I am the most qualified person to sit on the State Board of Education. My career in education began in 2002, and my advanced training and education make me the most responsible choice for SBOE.

Testing: No, I do not believe that the STAAR adequately and efficiently diagnoses student learning needs.

I believe that there is a place for standardized testing, but that it should be used for

formative purposes, to identify learning gaps and help guide instruction. In it's current, punitive, form it has lead to a testing culture that has narrowed our educational focus.

Education: 2013 - Doctor of Education Texas A&M University Kingsville (Bilingual Education & Education Administration) 2005- Master of Science Texas A&M Corpus Christi (Secondary Education) 2002- Bachelor Arts TAMU-K (History & Spanish, minor in French)
Website: <http://www.michelledavila.com>
Facebook: <http://MDavilaforSBOE>



When do you need to update your registration?

The registration will remain in effect until you move or change your name, and a new certificate will be sent to you every two years without further application on your part. If you move, however, your registration certificate will not be forwarded to your new address. If you move within the same county or change your name, you must notify your county clerk or election administrator in writing or online of your new address or your new name as soon as possible. Then a new certificate will be mailed to you. If you move to another county, you must re-register by applying to the election office in your new county.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION *Continued*

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 2



Charles "Tad" Hasse (R)

Background: I've had many years as a Scout leader where as Scoutmaster my troop produced more Eagle Scouts per year than any other Troop in the Council. I taught all grade levels of High School mathematics. I am expert in many technological and mechanical areas.

Testing: Obviously not. Texas would be 1st in the world would this be true. It measures task proficiency and a provides a statistical overview, not individual learning needs. The ultimate true measure is college and/or career readiness. It is the end game, not the middle game that is is the objective. Productive, satisfied non-burdening citizens in adulthood is that end game.

Funding: Although the statutory authority for investment seems to lie with the SBOE, examination will show that it is overlaid, restricted, and mandated by State statues from the

Legislature, which is also tied into the distribution of the proceeds, mandated bond guarantees as an example. Working with the Legislature is the most effective means to provide equitable distribution.

Other issues: For me, obviously far stronger math. It is the queen of the sciences and the is basis for logical, critical thought. Vocational education must return or we will continue to manufacture college failures, unhappy and loaded with debt. We must meet the life needs of our children to become productive citizens. Work with industry to meet their worker needs, colleges for theirs.

Education: High School - St Joseph Academy, Brownsville B.S. Mathematics
- University of Texas at Brownsville
Website: <http://www.tadfortexas.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/tadfortexas/>
Twitter: twitter.com/tadfortexas

Ruben Cortez Jr (D),
Eric Garza(R)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 3

Dan Arellano (D)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**



Marisa B. Perez (D)

Background: I am the incumbent office holder. I hold a Masters in Educational Leadership & Policy Studies & have worked in Texas public education for over 5 years. Prior to working in education, I worked in child welfare through the TDFPS.

Testing: The STAAR in no way adequately assess the learning needs, or competencies, for that matter, of a student. It is a summative assessment of a child's learning ability. However, progress is not measured, which is the most appropriate way to determine whether a child is learning. This should be done with formative assessments to be carried out throughout the year.

Funding: A)I believe the SBOE should be counseled to be as cautiously aggressive as possible with the investments to yield the best interest. B)Policy must be put in place to set a specific percentage of the PSF allocation the Legislature receives from SBOE that MUST

be used toward public school. This is not the current case & a large percentage of the PSF allocation is diverted.

Other issues: I recognize the importance of providing all children with an equitable challenging educational experience that prepares them to be productive adults. I know that in order to accomplish this, we must set high standards for our students, while ensuring that they have quality resources made available to them. I will to be the voice for high standards & fact based texts.

Education: The University of Texas at San Antonio San Antonio, TX Master of Arts, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, December 2016 The University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX Bachelor of Arts, Sociology, May 2007 Minor, Psychology, May 2007
Website: <http://www.marisabperez.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/MarisaPerezSBOE/>

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 4



Steven A. Chambers (D)

Background: I've been an educator for 10 years and a child advocate for 16 years. I've been a classroom teacher in various school settings, a community leader as a staff pastor at St. John's Downtown, and currently serve as a district administrator for HISD.

Testing: I believe standardized testing is an important tool for comparing student progress at a local, state, and national level. However, the STAAR does not adequately diagnose student learning needs. The test measures a student's ability to showcase mastered objectives as well as critically think. It does not effectively diagnose areas where students may have a learning NEED.

Funding: Given this term's increase in the Permanent School Fund's value, I believe the current investment policies are solid and sustainable. In terms of the equitable distribution of these funds, I want to ensure a fair & transparent rubric that captures the real needs of schools is enforced.

This rubric would take into account factors including neighborhood & community obstacles.

Other issues: If given the opportunity to serve in this role, I will ensure curriculum resources are culturally inclusive, relevant to the generation they serve, and effective in promoting rigorous learning environments. I believe creating and encouraging parent and family curriculum is a crucial supplement to every students holistic learning experience.

Education: TEA Certified Teacher M.Div. - Vanderbilt University B.S
- Hampton University (Magna Cum Laude)
Website: <http://www.chambers4schoolboard.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Chambers4SchoolBoard/>
Twitter: twitter.com/Chambers4Board

Lawrence Allen Jr (D)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

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Additional candidate information and races are available at www.Vote411.org.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION *Continued*

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 7

Elizabeth "Eliz" Markowitz (D)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

Matt Robinson (R)

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE — **NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.**
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 11



Carla Morton (D)

Background: I attended public school and am a first-generation college graduate. At work, I evaluate cognitive functioning of children and make academic and treatment recommendations. I also have 2 children in the FWISD, 1 of whom receives special education.

Testing: The STAAR test is only one piece of information that should be used when evaluating student needs. While group-administered assessments are efficient, important individual data can be missed.

Although generally a valid reflection of student performance as a group, one-on-one testing is necessary to reliably evaluate individual students with unexplained academic deficits.

Funding: Reliance on fossil fuel should decrease with increased investment in renewable energy, particularly as we work to improve our children's futures.

Unfortunately, the legislature increased funding from the PSF for charter schools, which are inherently inequitable and risky investments. Therefore,

limiting charters granted would result in more equitable distribution of funds.

Other issues: As a scientist trained to objectively evaluate data, I will insist upon unequivocal fact-based TEKS and materials. I also strongly support comprehensive sex education. Additionally, I will advocate for effective educational interventions that support functional independence, and I will ensure that special education students are assessed in the most appropriate manner.

Education: - Postdoctoral Fellowship in Pediatric Neuropsychology (Univ IL Chicago Med Ctr) - PhD and Master of Science in Psychology (Rosalind Franklin Univ of Medicine & Sci) - Bachelor of Music Therapy with honors and Minor in Psychology (Radford Univ)
Website: <http://www.VoteMortonTX.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/VoteMortonTX/>
Twitter: twitter.com/votemortontx



Patricia "Pat" Hardy (R)

Background: My life's work has been in the field education. I have the training and experience to make decisions required of SBOE members. I can work well with others as exemplified by the years that I have already served on the Board.

Testing: I support the STAAR testing. Schools need accountability and testing is a key part of that. Other factors and accomplishments should be considered when rating the success of a student or of a school. The

STAAR was not designed to diagnose individual learning needs. Individual learning needs are diagnosed in numerous ways, beginning with the classroom teacher.

Funding: The success of the investment policies of the PSF are demonstrated by the strong returns of the PSF. While the SBOE sets the rate of return for instructional materials, that is the

extent of its role in the distribution of funds sent to the Available School Fund. Equitable distributions for funding is under the purview of the Legislature.

Other issues: One of the main functions of the SBOE is setting the state standards. We shall soon have a newly streamlined set of excellent standards. My concern is with the lack of fidelity on the part of school districts in carrying out the state standards. They were designed with learning and critical thinking in mind but unfortunately test preparation has become more emphasized.

Education: B.A. Social Studies Howard Payne U. M.S. History/Education U. of North Texas
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ReelectPatHardy/>
Twitter: twitter.com/Pathardy2008



Feyi Obamehinti (R)

Background: Training: B.S Microbiology (University of Texas, Arlington) M.Sc Teaching & Learning/Curriculum & Instruction (Peru State College) Doctorate of Education Curriculum & Instruction (TAMU) Veteran educator (20 years +) educational consultant and trainer

Testing: The STAAR test is specifically designed to assess what students are learning at grade level and measure if students are ready for the next grade. Though there are STAAR for special education

students and English language learners (ELLs), the test is not designed to diagnose individual student learning needs. To do this requires a collaborative approach from all stakeholders.

Funding: The current investment policies is clearly stated in the Texas Administrative Code Title 19 Part 2 Chapter 33 (TAC) and covers all areas necessary for investment and administration of the fund. I would support management of the funds which is the largest

educational endowment in America. Same thing applies to equitable distributions to schools for instructional materials.

Other issues: Many of our elementary aged students are not well prepared for secondary grades and beyond. I would work with fellow members to champion implementing instructional approaches that will ensure all our students have equal opportunity to succeed in secondary grades and beyond. Such as a consistent statewide transition plan that bridges elementary grades to secondary grades.

Education: Bachelors of Science in Microbiology (University of Texas, Arlington) Masters of Science in Teaching & Learning and Curriculum & Instruction (Peru State College) Doctorate of Education in Curriculum & Instruction (Texas A & M University, College Stat)
Website: <http://www.Feyi4Schools.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/VoteFeyi4SBOE11/>



When do you need to update your registration?

The registration will remain in effect until you move or change your name, and a new certificate will be sent to you every two years without further application on your part. If you move, however, your registration certificate will not be forwarded to your new address. If you move within the same county or change your name, you must notify your county clerk or election administrator in writing or online of your new address or your new name as soon as possible. Then a new certificate will be mailed to you. If you move to another county, you must re-register by applying to the election office in your new county.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION *Continued*

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 11



Cheryl Surber (R)

Background: *1984-2009-Involved parent of Spl Needs child, *Founded advocacy grp for chronically-ill kids & presented to Cook Children's Med Ctr Board, *2nd child HS Valedictorian & understand wide needs, *Bus. Owner/Mgr/Analyst/Trainer &/or Investor since 1979

Testing: No. No testing is applicable to all. STAAR tests are too subjective, w/ Q's that can have multiple answers that are so close, it's too hard to have a "best" answer. If Q's are not understood, are they testing what they say they're testing & addressing a particular skill? When teachers "teach to the test," they are outcome driven. If teaching well, students should do well.

Funding: Funding is a hard issue, b/c of huge differences in needs between Spl Needs & Gifted kids (like my own two kids), or e.g. a child born in a distant or low income area, w/ little to no access to good schools, but who is highly gifted.

(a) & (b) I would want to study all data re: the PSF, but overall, like Trump's idea: money follows the child. With Spl Needs accommodations.

Other issues: (a) #ConstitutionalConservative, #PowerToTheParents, #SchoolChoice, #DoWhatWorks, #BackToBasics, #FreedomToLearn, #LetTeachersTeach, #StopTeachingToTheTest, #SpecialNeedsAdvocate, #ProLife, & #FaithAndFamily are extremely important to me. (b) Analyze the data to determine what works, then JUST DO IT!!!

Education: *Public & Pvt Pre-College & College: *6 yrs of public school, 7 yrs of private. *Grad: FW Country Day School. *TCU BFA in 3 years @ 20. *TCU BS @ 21. *TCU MBA yrs later. *Add'l Public College Undergrad &/or Grad Hrs at UT, UTA & TCC.

Website: <http://VoteSurber.org>

Facebook: <http://FaceBook.com/VoteSurber.org>

Celeste Light (D)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 12



Suzanne Smith (D)

Background: Four things: 1) Strong background in public education – as a student, professor and daughter of educators; 2) 2 decades of experience & leadership through boards & commissions; 3) MBA from Duke; and 4) Track record in community as a consensus-builder

Testing: We haven't yet found a solution that meets Texas' need for accountability, while also guarding against "teaching to the test." First, our process must be accurate. Second, we must balance our need for

data with ensuring that our students are on track by considering new ways of gauging performance. Finally, students with learning disabilities need modifications and support.

Funding: The Texas economy is ranked No. 6 nationally by U.S. News and World Report. Yet, Texas' education system is ranked No. 41 in the country. Texas, while it has invested the Fund well, has kicked the can on school finance reform for decades, and that has to change. I will

closely monitor the progress of the TX Public School Finance Commission and will champion real change.

Other issues: 1) Strong start through pre-K – Quality early education from birth to 3rd grade provides the highest ROI for the success of our students 2) Whole child - Attention must be given to children who come to school hungry, whose asthma problems inhibit their activity or who feel unsafe 3) Teaching recruitment/excellence/retention – Teachers are a big driver of student success

Education: MBA, Duke University's Fuqua School of Business

Website: <http://www.smith4texas.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/smith4texas/>

Twitter: twitter.com/smith4texas

Tina Green (D), Laura Malone-Miller (D)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**

Pam Little (R)
Unopposed Candidate • See VOTE411.ORG for Candidate Information

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 13

Aicha Davis (D), A. Denise Russell (R)

**UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES — NO RESPONSE RECEIVED By Print Deadline.
See VOTE411.ORG For Any Later Responses**



REGISTERING TO VOTE

You must register to vote at least 30 days before the election date. The last day you can register to vote for the 2018 Primary Election is February 5.

Who can register?

To register to vote, you must be

- a citizen of the United States,
- a resident of the county, and
- at least 18 years old on Election Day.

You must not have been declared mentally incapacitated by a court of law.

If you have been convicted of a felony, you may register to vote only after you have completed the punishment phase of your conviction, including any terms of incarceration, parole, supervision, or period of probation ordered by the court.

Where do I register?

You can register

- in person at the voter registration office in your county, or
- fill out an application that can be mailed or returned in person to the voter registrar in your county of residence.

Application forms are available at many libraries, government offices and high schools. The application is available online at the Secretary of State's voter information website, www.VoteTexas.gov. The website also allows you to search to see if you are already registered.

After you apply, a voter registration certificate will be mailed to you within 30 days. This certificate includes your precinct for voting on Election Day as well as your congressional, state legislative, county, and local districts.



VOTER GUIDE

2018 PRIMARY ELECTION EDITION

i

See **WHAT TO TAKE TO THE POLLS** on the front page for a list of accepted photo IDs.

This section provides additional information about the photo ID requirements.

- The photo ID needs to be current or have expired no more than 4 years before voting (citizenship and naturalization certificates have no expiration date).
- The name on the photo ID should match the voter registration card or be “substantially similar.”
 - If the names don’t match exactly, but are substantially similar, the voter will initial a box for similar name when signing in to vote.
 - To avoid confusion, you can change the name on your voter registration to match that on your photo ID at least 30 days prior to the election.
- Voters with a documented disability from Social Security or Veterans Affairs can apply for a voter registration certificate exempting them from the photo ID requirement.
- Voters without another acceptable ID can obtain an Election Identification Certificate (EIC) from Texas DPS at no cost by providing proof of citizenship and identity and registering to vote at DPS or showing a voter registration card. Requirements for the EIC can be found at <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/electionID.htm>. There is no charge for the EIC but the necessary documentation may have a cost.

Photo ID is generally not required to vote by mail.

Voters may apply for a mail ballot if 65 or older, ill or disabled, or absent from their county during early voting and on Election Day. In some cases, first time voters will be asked to supply a copy of an ID to vote by mail.

- Voters who do not show an acceptable ID and do not sign the reasonable impediment declaration can vote a provisional ballot and have six days to show the required photo ID.
- Those who lack a photo ID because of a religious objection to being photographed or because of a natural disaster declared by the president will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot and complete an affidavit within six days of the election.

Check the League’s website for other helpful information about elections, voting and issues:

www.lwvtexas.org



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF TEXAS

EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

Who else but the LWV is a nonpartisan, political organization and one of America’s most trusted grassroots organizations? The LWV...encouraging active participation in government...working to increase understanding of major public policy issues...influencing public policy through education and advocacy...making democracy work! Learn more about our 27 Local Leagues and how they help shape today’s important issues by visiting the League’s website at <https://my.lwv.org/texas>.



When do you need to update your registration?

The registration will remain in effect until you move or change your name, and a new certificate will be sent to you every two years without further application on your part. If you move, however, your registration certificate will not be forwarded to your new address. If you move within the same county or change your name, you must notify your county clerk or election administrator in writing or online of your new address or your new name as soon as possible. Then a new certificate will be mailed to you. If you move to another county, you must re-register by applying to the election office in your new county.

VOTER IDENTIFICATION: WHAT TO TAKE TO THE POLLS

TEXAS REQUIRES MOST VOTERS TO SHOW PHOTO ID

The seven forms of approved photo ID's are: (must not be expired more than 4 years; for voters age 70 or older no limit on the expiration of the ID)

1. Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS);
2. Texas personal identification card issued by DPS;
3. Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS;
4. Texas handgun license issued by DPS;
5. United States military identification card containing the person's photograph;
6. United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph; (Note: Does not expire.)
7. United States passport.

OPTIONS: Voters who do not have any of the approved photo IDs and who are on the official list of registered voters may sign a simple form called a "reasonable impediment declaration" and vote a regular ballot if they present a:

- Valid voter registration certificate (card)
- Certified birth certificate (original)
- Current utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check
- Paycheck
- Any other government document with the individual's name and address (original).

ID address does not have to match the voter registration address.



HELPFUL CONTACTS & WEBSITES

Secretary of State

sos.state.tx.us
VoteTexas.gov

League of Women Voters of Texas

lwvtexas.org

League of Women Voters (U.S.)

lwv.org

Republican Party

texasgop.org

Democratic Party

txdemocrats.org

Libertarian Party

lptexas.org

Green Party

txgreens.org

VOTE411.org

Voter Hotline! Election Protection.

866-OUR-VOTE English

888-VE-Y-VOTA Spanish

888-API-VOTE

English, Mandarin,

Cantonese,

Korean, Vietnamese,

Bengali,

Urdu, Hindi, and Tagalog

YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

VOTER REGISTRAR
800-687-8646 / 972-547-1990
2016 REDBUD BLVD., SUITE 102
MCKINNEY, TX 75069
www.collincountytx.gov

Secretary of State's Office
Elections Division
1-800-252-VOTE (8683)

2016 - 2017 Sample

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE
(Certificado de Registro Electoral)
COLLIN COUNTY (condado de Collin)

CONGRESS (Congreso)	STATE SEN. (Sen. Estado)	STATE REP. (Rep. Estado)	COM	JP
CITY (Ciudad)	CITY DIST. (Ciudad dist.)	ISD (escuela)	ISD DIST. (escuela dist.)	SBOE

Party Primary

VOID (VUID) Gender (Sexo) Valid from (Valido desde)

Year of Birth (Año de Nacimiento) Prec. No. (Pct. Num.) thru (hasta)

Name and Permanent Residence Address (Nombre y dirección residencial permanente)
Voter, John Q.
1234 Street
City Name, Tx 75024

Name and Mailing Address (Nombre y dirección de correo)
John Q. Voter
1234 Street
City Name, Tx 75024

Voted in the election primary (Votó en la elección primaria)

VOTER MUST PERSONALLY SIGN HEREIN IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT, IF APPLICABLE (EL VOTANTE DEBE FIRMAR ESTA Hoja personalmente al punto de recepción, si aplica)



The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office, or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

VOTING IN TEXAS PRIMARIES

The upcoming Texas primary is an extremely important election in Texas!

Voters in the Texas primaries and conventions choose who will run for office in the General Election. For many communities in Texas, their elected officials are chosen in the primary election because many districts heavily favor one party over the other.

The Republican and Democratic Parties choose their candidates in a primary election. The Libertarian and Green Parties choose their candidates in party conventions.

Texas has open primaries. That means that ALL Texas voters can participate in one of these events.

Voters who don't strongly identify with any political party can and should carefully consider the choices and participate in one of the primaries or conventions. But you can only participate in one. Once a voter has voted in one party, that voter cannot participate in another party's election or convention.

The League encourages all registered voters to participate in the Texas Primary Election and vote for the best candidates. Don't forget, voting in a primary does not commit you to vote for a particular candidate in the general election.

Be a Texas Voter!



STUDENT VOTERS

Students may use either their parents' address or their college address for voter registration, whichever they consider to be their permanent address. Students cannot be registered at both places. Students who will be away from their address on Election Day and during early voting may request ballots by mail. Student IDs are not adequate photo IDs for voting and will not be accepted at the polls.



VOTER GUIDE

2018 PRIMARY ELECTION EDITION

DONOR RECOGNITION

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